

EP0649102A3

Publication Title:

Interactive system.

Abstract:

An interactive system, comprises a local controller (8) operable to control data flow to and from at least two local handsets (11,22) for generating data. The local controller (8) includes a store (28) for storing data and a processor. A central controller (1) is connectable to the local controller, and a display (12) is provided for displaying data locally from the central controller and the local controller. The local controller (8) stores data generated by each local handset and selectively transfers stored data to the central controller (1). A handset for use in the system comprises a transmitter and a receiver (9) for transfer of data between the handset (11,22) and the local controller and input means to input data for controlling the output of the display via the local controller is input to the local controller by means of a cursor control (33) laterally movable over a plane (36) and a sensor (38,41) for sensing a position of the cursor control within the plane (36) and causing a cursor on the display (12) to take up a similar position. A method of operating the system comprises broadcasting first data from the central controller to which the local controller responds by causing the display to display the broadcast first data. Second data from each local handset relating to the first data is stored in the local controller and then selectively transferred to the central controller if predetermined conditions are satisfied.

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(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
26.06.1996 Bulletin 1996/26

(51) Int Cl.⁶: **G06F 17/00, A63F 9/22**
// G06F161:00

(43) Date of publication A2:
19.04.1995 Bulletin 1995/16

(21) Application number: **94307570.5**

(22) Date of filing: **14.10.1994**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL
PT SE

(30) Priority: **15.10.1993 GB 9321312**

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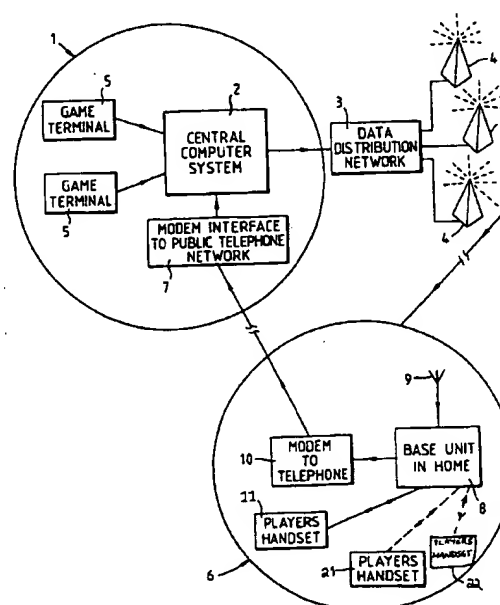
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(54) **Interactive system**

(57) An interactive system, comprises a local controller (8) operable to control data flow to and from at least two local handsets (11,22) for generating data. The local controller (8) includes a store (28) for storing data and a processor. A central controller (1) is connectable to the local controller, and a display (12) is provided for displaying data locally from the central controller and the local controller. The local controller (8) stores data generated by each local handset and selectively transfers stored data to the central controller (1). A handset for use in the system comprises a transmitter and a receiver (9) for transfer of data between the handset (11, 22) and the local controller and input means to input data for controlling the output of the display via the local controller is input to the local controller by means of a cursor control (33) laterally movable over a plane (36) and a sensor (38,41) for sensing a position of the cursor control within the plane (36) and causing a cursor on the display (12) to take up a similar position. A method of operating the system comprises broadcasting first data from the central controller to which the local controller responds by causing the display to display the broadcast first data. Second data from each local handset relating to the first data is stored in the local controller and then selectively transferred to the central controller if predetermined

conditions are satisfied.

Fig.1.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 7570

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	WO-A-89 06405 (COUNTRYWIDE COMPETITIONS LIMITED)	1,2,4,6,7,9,10,14,18-21	G06F17/00 A63F9/22 //G06F161:00
Y	* page 1, line 17 - line 36 * * page 6, line 8 - line 14 * * page 7, line 1 - line 24 * * page 8, line 24 - page 9, line 14 *	8	
Y	GB-A-2 197 971 (ROBINSON) * abstract; claim 10 *	8	
A	EP-A-0 310 368 (INTERVISION (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED) * the whole document *	1,18	
D,A	EP-A-0 405 776 (INTERACTIVE NETWORK INC.) * the whole document *	1,18	
D,A	WO-A-91 08810 (INTERACTIVE NETWORK INC.) * the whole document *	1,18	
X	US-A-4 719 455 (LOUIS) * the whole document *	15-17	
X	US-A-4 864 272 (CECCHI) * abstract; figure 1 *	15-17	
X	US-A-4 587 510 (KIM) * abstract; figure 2 *	15-17	
A	IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, vol. 28, no. 9, February 1986, NEW YORK, pages 4093-4097, XP002001079 "Cursor Controller/Graphics Pad" * the whole document *	15-17	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 19 April 1996	Examiner Nicholls, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

EPO FORM 1503 (01.91) (P0101)



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EP 94307570

	CLAIMS INCURRING FEES
<p>The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.</p>	
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION</p> <p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:</p> <p>1. Claims 1-14, 18-23: Interactive system.</p> <p>2. Claims 15-17: Handset.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respects of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:</p>	